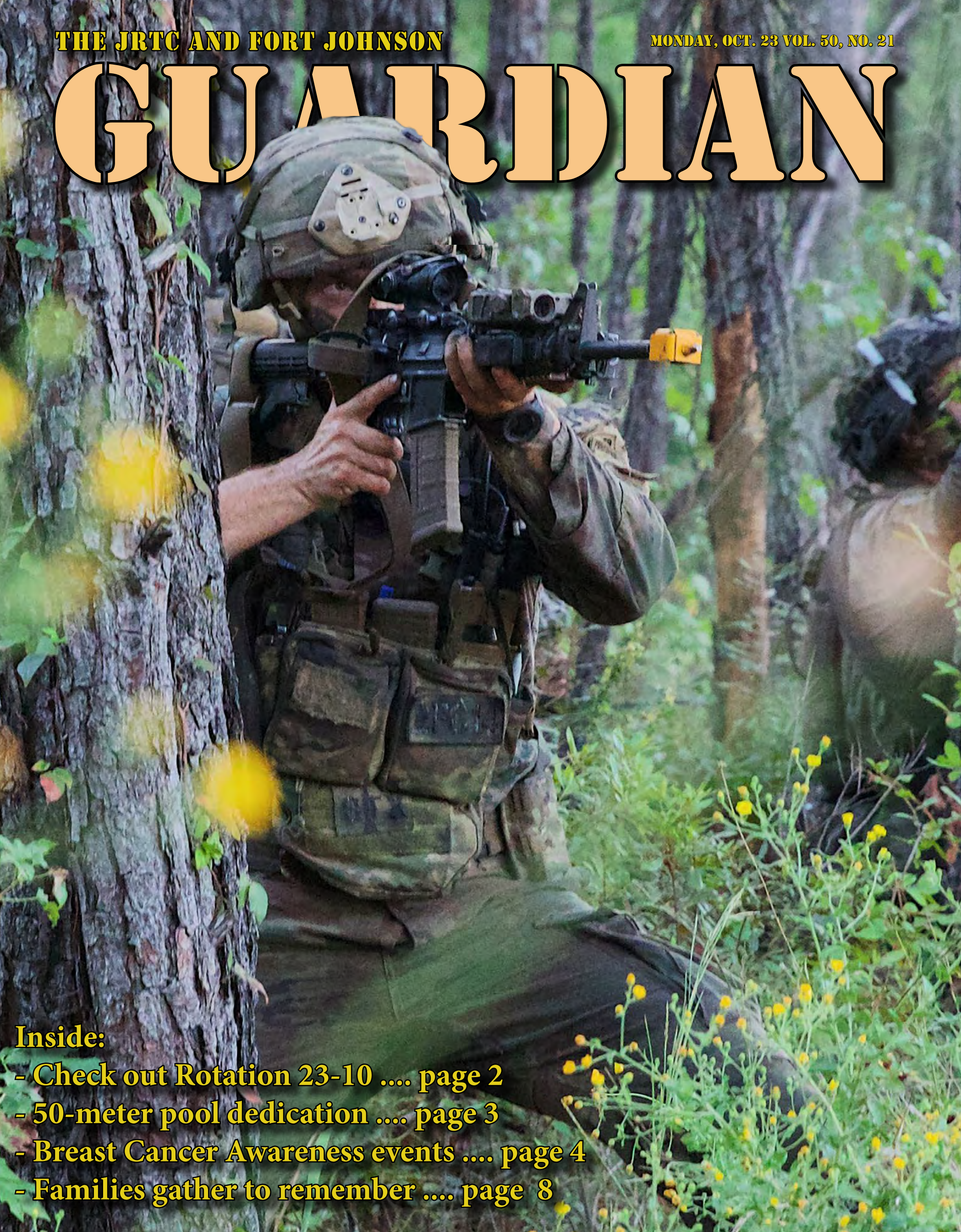


# GUARDIAN



## Inside:

- Check out Rotation 23-10 .... page 2
- 50-meter pool dedication .... page 3
- Breast Cancer Awareness events .... page 4
- Families gather to remember .... page 8



# Fort Johnson scout sends letter to editor

FORT JOHNSON, La. — As a military child who is also a Boy Scout, being a part of community events through volunteering is a wonderful opportunity.

Fort Johnson has different organizations for both adults and youths who can experience volunteering at various levels.

The most recent community event was the Fort Johnson Redesignation Ceremony. This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me and all the scouts from Boy Scout Troop 124 and Girl Scout Troop 2172.

We assisted with distribution of event programs and helped attendees find their seats.

There are unique volunteering experiences at every installation. This is the reason why every time

I move to a new installation I look for a Boy Scouts of America troop; it provides a sense of “home” I am familiar with.

Scouts who are military kids have a great sense of pride by showing our willingness to benefit the community by attending these events in uniform and volunteering where we can help others in need.

Also, representing our scouting organizations at these events gives us a greater chance to grow the scouting community and continue a tradition of allowing organizations like BSA on military installations.

Fort Johnson and the greater community hold annual events where scouts can volunteer and

utilize our scouting background to help others. One can find scouts at local chapels, flag memorials during Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies and Wreaths Across America, an annual event honoring veterans during the holiday season.

Scouts also partner with installation agencies like the Environmental Office to assist with wildlife and conservation events.

If you see a scout on the installation in their scouting uniform, more than likely they are giving back to the community for the benefit of others. Stop and ask one of my scout friends how you can become part of this tradition and gain a sense of “home” like I have.

Ryan Barnett Jr.

## LETTER TO EDITOR



**JRTC and  
Fort Johnson  
Brig. Gen. David W.  
Gardner**

Commanding General

**Col. CJ Lopez**

Garrison Commander

**Deven B. King**

Director of Public Affairs

**Keith Houin**

Deputy Director

## Public Affairs Staff

**Angie Thorne**

Guardian Editor

**Jeff England**

Broadcast

**Chuck Cannon**

Community Relations Officer

**Porsha Auzenne**

Writer

**Gabe Walker**

Operations

## Editorial Offices

Building 4919, Magnolia Street

Fort Johnson, LA 71459-5060

Voice (337) 531-4033

Fax (337) 531-1401

Fort Johnson Homepage

[home.army.mil/johnson/](http://home.army.mil/johnson/)

The eGuardian is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the eGuardian are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Fort Johnson.

The Guardian can be found on the JRTC and Fort Johnson website at [home.army.mil/Johnson](http://home.army.mil/Johnson) and the JRTC and Fort Johnson Facebook page at [@JRTCAandFortJohnson/](https://www.facebook.com/JRTCAandFortJohnson/). eGuardian archives can also be found on the JRTC and Fort Johnson website.

Links to the eGuardian are also included in all-users emails to government email users and by request to non-military units.

All editorial content of the Guardian is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson.

For more information on Fort Johnson units and happenings visit the [@JRTCAandFortJohnson](https://www.facebook.com/JRTCAandFortJohnson/) Facebook page.

## Housing town hall

Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson leadership, along with unit leaders and representatives from Corvias, held a Housing Town Hall Oct. 16 in the Dogwood Terrace neighborhood. Residents were able to share their housing questions and concerns, maintaining the open dialogue between the Fort Johnson community and leadership. The town hall ended at the Dogwood Community Center to further engage in discussions about quality of life.



PORSHA AUZENNE/GUARDIAN



**Cover photo:** The 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Falcon Brigade, worked tirelessly to seize their final objective of the attack phase for Joint Readiness Training Center Rotation 23-10. Falcon paratroopers never relented despite determined opposition forces, demonstrating commitment to victory. (Photo by Spc. Hannah Stewart, 49th Public Affairs Detachment)



# Soldiers train in the box during rotation 23-10



JRTC PUBLIC AFFAIRS TASK FORCE



2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division train during Rotation 23-10 at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson.

JRTC PUBLIC AFFAIRS TASK FORCE



Spc. HANNAH STEWART/49th PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT



JRTC PUBLIC AFFAIRS TASK FORCE



Spc. HANNAH STEWART/49th PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT



JRTC PUBLIC AFFAIRS TASK FORCE



# Pool named for beloved community member

By **ANGIE THORNE**  
Public Affairs Office

FORT JOHNSON, La. — Fort Johnson re-named its 50-meter pool in honor of Sgt. 1st Class Madison Guess Jr. Pool during a ceremony Oct. 17.

In addition to Fort Johnson leadership, distinguished guests and members of the Fort Johnson community, the Guess Family, including Madison’s spouse, Alice, and his three children, were in attendance.

Guess retired from Fort Polk in 2003 after a 22-year Army career. Not long after, he was employed at the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation as the 50-meter pool program manager, a fitting job for the former collegiate swimmer. He held that position for more than 20 years. In that time he touched the lives of countless Soldiers, civilians and their Family members. After fighting a battle with cancer, Guess passed away June 2.

Fort Johnson garrison commander, Col. CJ Lopez opened the ceremony by telling the audience they were gathered to rename the pool to honor the legacy of retired Sgt. 1st Class Madison Guess Jr. by not only acknowledging his extraordinary military service, but also his dedication to nurturing and empowering Fort Johnson youth.

“Over the years Madison selflessly dedicated his time and expertise to training and mentoring countless young adults who have become contributing members of our community today. He not only imparted the necessary skills for a life saving profession, but also instilled the values of compassion, teamwork and courage to each and every one of them,” Lopez said. “By renaming this pool after Sgt. 1st Class Guess, we pay homage to his life of service, the love he had for his country and his determination to inspire and mold the next generation. This dedication reflects not only his devotion to the Army but also his enduring legacy in the realm of swimming.”

Alice Guess also said a few words at the ceremony. She began by thanking all of those who made the renaming possible and thanked all who spoke such kind words about her husband.

“It has been a bittersweet day. This is an honor, not just because this pool is now named for him, but also because it’s his birthday today,” Guess said. “What better day to celebrate? He was a good-hearted man and he is truly missed. It is an honor for my Family to see his legacy continue by having the pool named for him.”



*There was a large audience at the ceremony.*



*Alice Guess (left), the wife of retired Sgt. 1st Class Madison Guess Jr., attended the renaming ceremony for the Fort Johnson 50-meter pool and was presented with a bouquet of flowers as the ceremony began Oct. 17.*



*The Guess Family is overcome with emotions as they view the plaque designating the Fort Johnson 50-meter pool to Sgt. 1st Class. Guess Jr. Pool.*



*Pool staff stand in front of the new sign.*



*Alice Guess stands next to the plaque honoring her husband.*

COURTESY VISUAL INFORMATION



# Breast cancer events pinpoint focus on awareness, hope

By **ANGIE THORNE**  
Public Affairs Office

Fort Johnson, La. — Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers in women in the United States. It accounts for about 30% of all new cancers each year. An estimated 297,790 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in 2023 and about 43,700 will die from the disease.

That means it's imperative to get the word out about breast cancer. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Fort Johnson answered the call with informative signs, flyers, news stories, podcasts and events such as the Go Pink Run breast cancer awareness run/walk and breast cancer luncheon to highlight the importance of getting the word out about this deadly disease.

1st Sgt. Mauricio Gonzalez was up early Oct. 17, along with quite a few other members of the Fort Johnson community including installation leadership, Soldiers, Family members and breast cancer survivors, as they prepared to take part in the run. Gonzalez, like many others at the run, had a personal connection with breast cancer. Though, it's not what one might think. It wasn't his sister, mom or daughters who had a brush with this devastating disease, but him.

"At one point, I thought I had breast cancer. It was scary and awkward going to the doctor's office and being the only male in the waiting room. I got looks from the women like they were wondering what I was doing there, but I didn't hesitate to have it checked out," Gonzalez said. "Thankfully, my results came back clear."

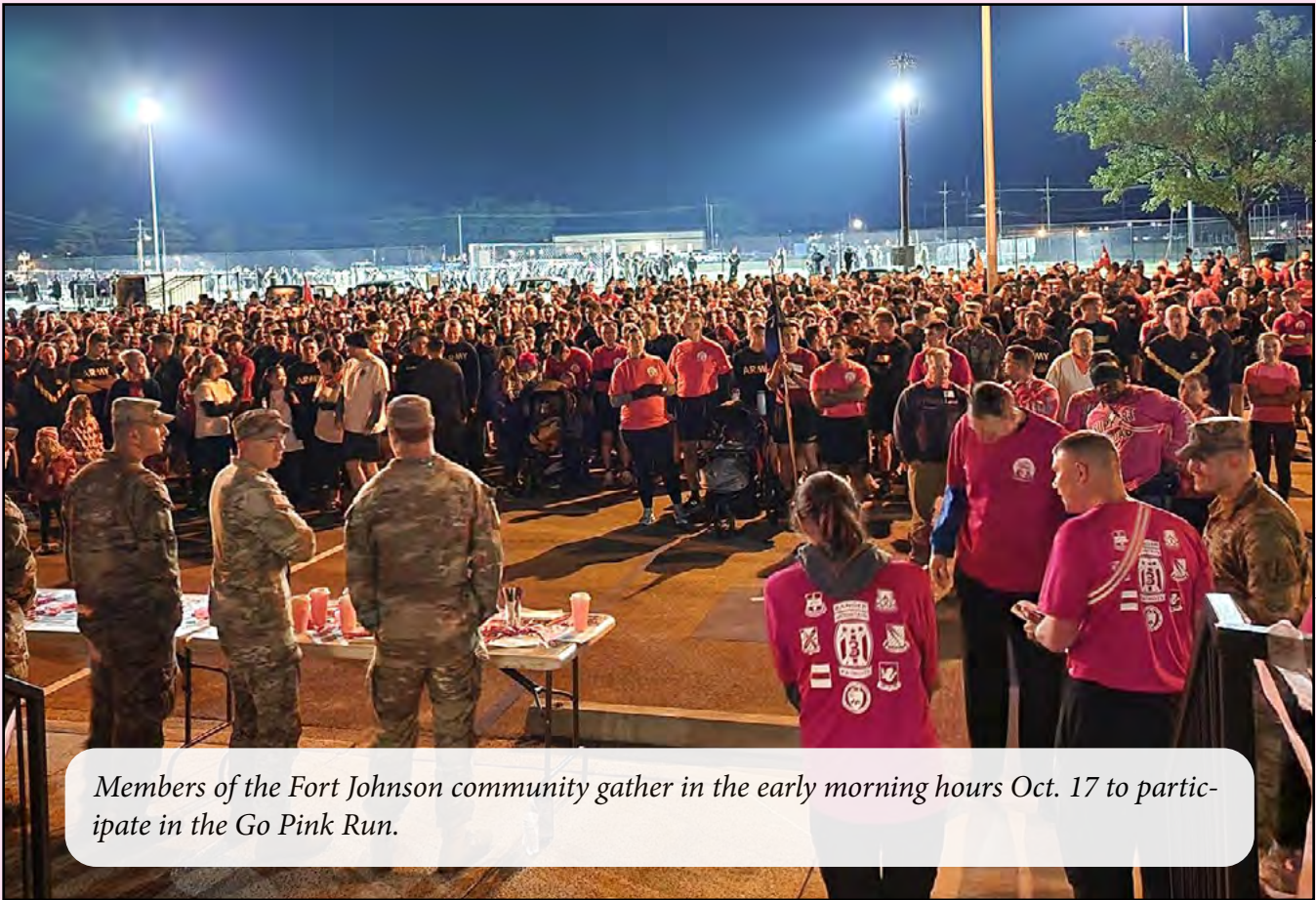
Running in the race is Gonzalez's way to support awareness. Though less than 1% of breast cancer diagnoses are found in men, that's no reason to not be aware of the disease. "As a leader in the military, I feel it's important to set an example for my young female and male Soldiers," Gonzalez said. "I always try to encourage the importance of self-examination and early detection because nobody ever thinks it's going to happen to them."

One out of 833 men will develop breast cancer. If detected early, male breast cancer has a five year survival rate of 100%.

Currently there are more than four million breast cancer survivors in the United States. That includes those still being treated and those who have completed treatment.

Many local breast cancer survivors were honored at the Breast Cancer Awareness Month Luncheon held Oct. 18 at the Warrior Center. The event was also attended by Fort Johnson leadership, Family members and those supporting breast cancer awareness.

Syble McGrew, a Red Cross volunteer at Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, is a breast cancer survivor and attended the luncheon. McGrew had stage one breast cancer.



*Members of the Fort Johnson community gather in the early morning hours Oct. 17 to participate in the Go Pink Run.*



*The runners are well on their way to the finish line.*

"That's not as bad as some of the others attending today, but it was still a tough battle. It was my personal fight and I won," McGrew said. "I still keep an eye on it with follow-ups and so far, so good."

An event like this keeps people focused on what's important.

"It keeps myself and others proud of being the warriors we are," McGrew said.

Angela DeGray, retired military spouse, was diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer – stage one. She underwent radiation and chemotherapy from April through August in 2022.

"Chemo was a real devil, but I came out the angel in that fight. I lost weight I didn't have to lose, as well as my hair. I also went through 12 sessions of radiation and had a partial mastectomy," DeGray said.

DeGray's faith and Family were a huge part of her support system.

"They made me strong and made me think, 'bring it on,'" DeGray said.

DeGray, like McGrew, continues with her follow-up doctor visits.

"My last check-up they found another lump. I go back at the end of this month to find out what that's all about," DeGray said. "Whatever they say, I'm ready for the fight."

That fighting spirit, along with hope, are a couple of the things Dr. Phyllis Mason, chief medical officer at Natchitoches Regional Medical Center, discussed as one of the guest speakers at the event.

She began with the story of how breast can-

Please see **Breast cancer**, page 5



# Breast cancer

Continued from page 4

cer's pink ribbon campaign came to be, as well as some sobering statistics.

"All the statistics I have mentioned in relation to breast cancer are about intellect. They touch your head, not your heart. But there is value in the pink ribbon campaign because it touches your heart. Heart and emotion is where I believe powerful decisions are made. They can change the trajectory of an issue. It's where hope is born. There is no hope in statistics, but when you see the pink ribbon there is hope," Mason said. "Remember, there is a place for statistics, but they don't reflect what's really important, the people behind the stats."

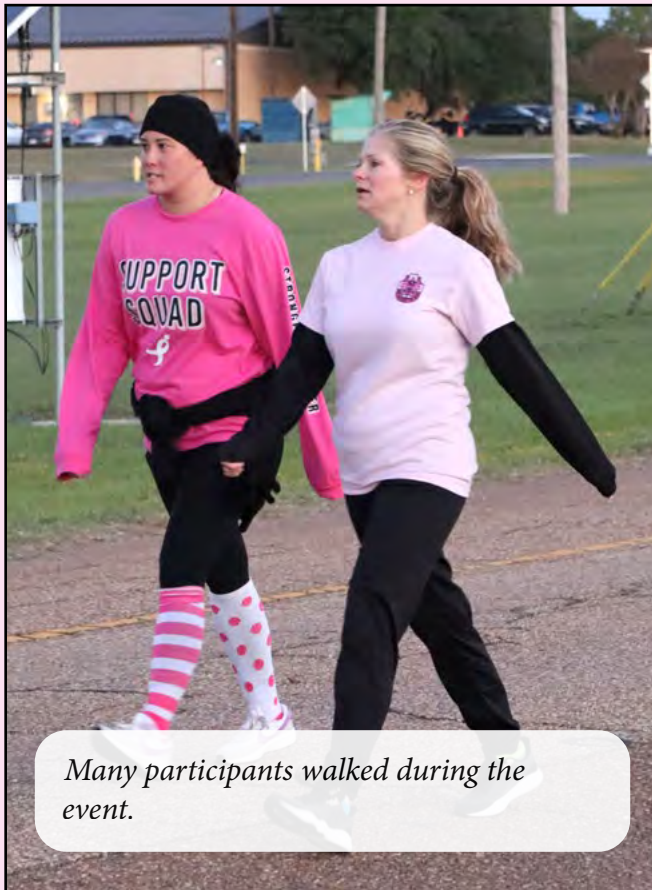
Mason brought up another campaign that seemingly has nothing to do with breast cancer. She said she loves commercials and she used the Modelo beer campaign as an analogy for the "fighting spirit" of those diagnosed with the disease.

"This campaign highlights people who chose the life of a fighter. You didn't have a choice when breast cancer chose you, but I would be willing to bet that the survivors in this room have chosen to live the life of a fighter. You don't just fight the cancer. Some of you fight just to get up every day. Some of you fight to go to one more chemo or radiation treatment. Some of you fight to keep your hope alive. Some of you fight so instinctively that you those around you don't even know you're fighting," Mason said.

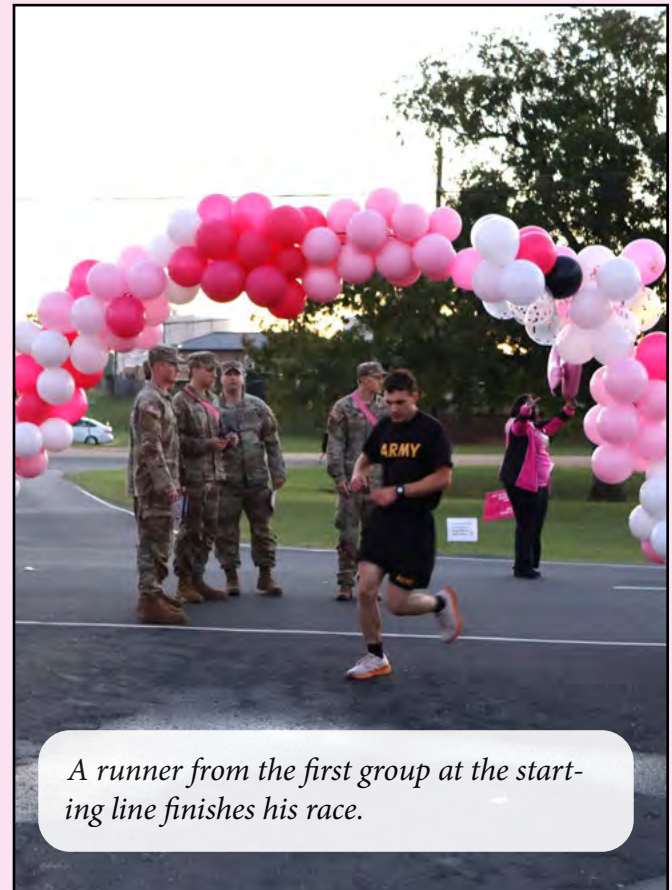
Mason ended with a twist on the beer campaign's words.

"The pink ribbon was made for you. The pink ribbon is the mark of a fighter," Mason said.

If a person feels something unusual during a breast self-examination, they should make an appointment to get it checked out, but even if they don't feel anything, the American Cancer Society recommends a screening mammography every year for women ages 50-54 and every 1-2 years for women ages 55 and older.



Many participants walked during the event.



A runner from the first group at the starting line finishes his race.



Members of the Fort Johnson community attending the breast cancer luncheon register and pay for their lunch.



Dr. Phyllis Mason, chief medical officer at Natchitoches Regional Medical Center, speaks at the Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon Oct. 18.



Survivors gather to cut the cake at the Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon Oct. 18.





PORSHA AUZENNE/GUARDIAN

### Celebrating International Day of the Air Traffic Controller

*The International Day of the Air Traffic Controller is observed annually Oct. 20. It celebrates the men and women who work 365 days of the year and 24 hours a day to help make air travel the safest possible mode of transport. Fort Johnson air traffic controllers Jason Williams (left) and Lyndsi Tullos monitor air traffic at Maks Army Airfield.*



COURTESY VISUAL INFORMATION

### Forging New Leaders graduation

*The 2023 graduating class of Forging New Leaders were presented their certificates Oct. 17. Forging New Leaders is a 10-month program that requires students to log more than 180 hours of classroom instruction, which includes team projects, academic studies, readings, presentations, 14 directorate briefs and tours focusing on Fort Johnson's major services and functions. The course covers the Army Design Methodology and the Military Decision Making Process.*



# SEMI-ANNUAL Joint Readiness Training Center & Fort Johnson QUALITY OF LIFE CONFERENCE

## JRTC & Fort Johnson QoL Initiatives



HOUSING



HEALTH CARE



CHILD CARE



SPOUSE  
EMPLOYMENT



PCS MOVES



SUPPORT AND  
RESILIENCE

### Commanding General's QoL Priorities:

*Education • Housing • Child Care • Health Care • Army Spouse Employment • MWR - Recreation*

*Care for our People • Build Readiness • Succeed in our JRTC & Fort Johnson Campaigns*  
Commanding General's Priorities

## NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 1:30-4:30 P.M.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Welcome – 1:30 p.m.

QoL Progress Overview / Recap Last Conference – 1:35 p.m.

Permanent Change of Station Moves – 1:45 p.m.

Spouse Employment – 2:15 p.m.

BREAK (15 min.)

Support and Resilience – 3:00 p.m.

Health Care – 3:30 p.m.

Feedback / Closing Remarks / Survey – 4:00 p.m.

This is an event for Soldiers, civilians, retirees and Family members to participate in, and provide feedback or suggestions on the state of QoL on Fort Johnson.

Seating is limited. RSVP to [kayla.l.moore16.civ@army.mil](mailto:kayla.l.moore16.civ@army.mil) NLT Nov. 10



20231019-A-JH398AMDPTMS/VI



# Families gather for Pregnancy, Infant Loss Remembrance Day

By JEAN CLAVETTE GRAVES  
BJACH PAO

FORT JOHNSON, La. — Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital hosted a Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day observance at the Angel Baby Tree Memorial Oct. 15 at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson.

The original Angel Baby Tree was donated in 1994 to the hospital from grieving parents as a constant and living reminder of the estimated one in four individuals and Families whose lives are altered by that death of their children during pregnancy, at birth or in infancy.

In August 2020, when Hurricane Laura devastated Louisiana, the tree was uprooted. Maj. Ellen Jones, former emergency department chief at BJACH, replaced the tree in the spring of 2021 as a place for those affected by infant loss to continue to find comfort.

Maj. Walter Gradzik, JRTC Operations Group, and his wife Chelsea, spearheaded the remembrance day event in honor of the two miscarriages they experienced and the emotional toll it took on their Family.

Chelsea spoke about her personal journey and offered a tribute to Louis and Zellie Martin, the patron saints of illness, mental illness, marriage, parenting and widowers.

The Martins had nine children together, with only five daughters who survived to adulthood.

“We are part of a club that nobody ever wanted to become a part of,” she said. “We lost twins to miscarriage in 2020 and another child in 2021 before we had our beautiful little rainbow baby, Maggie. We understand the ache of loss and the fear that comes with subsequent pregnancies.”

Gradzik said many people share the desire to see something positive come from tragedy.

“We’ve been called to make sure that our children’s lives are not forgotten, but those who experience miscarriage or pregnancy loss have the support they need during the experience as well as in the months and years that follow,” she said.

Gradzik said Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day is something she and her husband hold sacred.

That’s why they wanted to create a space and an opportunity for those who wanted and needed it.

Col. Takako Barrell, deputy commander of nursing at BJACH, said it’s important to recognize and honor babies who have died due to miscarriage, still birth and neonatal death.

“This was a great opportunity to bring those who have experienced this type of loss together as a community in a safe and supportive place to share their experiences,” Barrell said. “We are mindful that it is important to have reasons to hope and a feeling of renewal each



*Maj. Walter Gradzik, Joint Readiness Training Center Operations Group, his wife Chelsea and daughter Maggie, place two rocks under the Angel Baby Tree Memorial at Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital Oct. 15 during the Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day observance at Fort Johnson. Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day is observed annually Oct. 15 to honor those who have experienced pregnancy loss and infant death, which includes miscarriage, stillbirth, sudden infant death syndrome, ectopic pregnancy, termination for medical reasons and the death of a newborn.*



morning and we recognized that through the shared tragedy these parents have experienced, events like this bring us together to provide comfort and peace to each other.”

Capt. James Walker, BJACH chaplain, led the group in prayer and invited them to place a rock under the Angel Baby Tree Memorial in

honor of lost pregnancies and infants.

“While this is a relatively common occurrence that affects many, we don’t often create a space to talk about it and support one another,” Walker said. “Thank you, Chelsea and Walter, for helping us create this space to support others.”



# TALK MORE *Fight Less*

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE  
**ACS**  
Real-Life Solutions for Successful Army Living

## JOIN US FOR PREP 8.0

Every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. for four weeks starting Oct. 31-Nov. 21

### You'll Learn:

- How to communicate effectively
- Danger signs and how to prevent escalation
- The three keys to successful relationships
- Speaker-listener techniques and so much more

Class is limited to the first 10 couples who register, so reserve your spot now.

For more information or to register, contact:

ACS Family Advocacy Program  
Building 920, 1591 Bell Richard Ave.  
337-531-0636/7391



JOIN OPERATION  
HOMEFRONT FOR A  
GIFT CARD  
DISTRIBUTION EVENT!

## HOLIDAY MEALS FOR MILITARY

### Eligibility Category 3:

- Post 9/11 wounded, ill, or injured service member of any rank, both currently serving and those no longer serving in the military, or
- All ranks Active Duty, or
- All ranks Activated Guard or Reserve personnel currently serving in extended Title 10 status

## 9 DEC 2023 | 10AM-11:30AM

Fort Johnson Community Center

200 Bell Richard Ave

Fort Johnson South, LA 71459



To register, scan the QR code or visit  
[MyOperationHomefront.org](https://MyOperationHomefront.org)

# STRONG BEGINNINGS

**Part Day AM Program**  
**Monday-Friday**  
**8:30-11:30 a.m.**  
**Oct. 23, 2023-May 17, 2024**

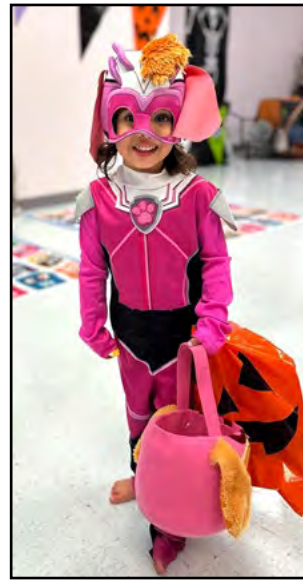
Request care @ [militarychildcare.com](https://militarychildcare.com) &  
follow up with Parent Central Service or call  
(337) 531-1955

All CYS registration must be up to date prior to enrollment

The Army Strong Beginnings Pre-K is a program designed to prepare children to be successful to enter school. The curriculum focuses on the social, emotional, and physical development of children and "Kindergarten Classroom Etiquette" skills to enhance "school readiness."







## Chalk fun

Fort Johnson Army Community Service hosted a Family Advocacy program and Exceptional Family Member Program Chalk about Family Halloween Family fun night Oct. 13 at ACS. Costumed kids and adults enjoyed contests, crafts, an EFMP chill zone and snacks. Families were encouraged to grab some colorful chalk and be creative.



COURTESY ACS

**CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHAT YOU SHARE MAY COME BACK TO HAUNT YOU**

f i t d s in

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.SAFCM.AF.MIL/CISO](https://www.safcm.af.mil/ciso)

**CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH**

**PHISHING WARFARE**

A phishing attack is generally characterized by a...

- LURE** delivered via e-mail that entices you to click a link
- HOOK** that tricks you into giving information to a malicious website designed to look authentic
- CATCH** that allows the phisher to use your information to masquerade as you

Remember to.....  
**STOP, THINK, before you CLICK!**

**ONE** click could compromise...

- ✓ your personal information
- ✓ your agency's information
- ✓ your computer system
- ✓ your computer information





# INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

## Digging deeper with Fort Johnson's archaeology team

By PORSHA AUZENNE  
Public Affairs Office

FORT JOHNSON, La. — Whether you're a fan of Indiana Jones or Lara Croft, one thing that can probably be agreed upon is archaeologists have a pretty cool job. Though most don't travel deep, dark, secret passages filled with booby traps, dodge round boulders trying to flatten them, or exchange live fire with bad guys, they do uncover history one brush stroke at a time. Whether fictional or real, archaeologists tend to be known for their hard work and dedication to their field.

International Archaeology Day, which is recognized the third Saturday in October (Oct. 21), celebrates the wondrous accomplishments of those in the archaeology field.

Fort Johnson's very own team of archaeologists share what makes day-to-day life in the field rewarding and how important archaeology is to the local area.

"Archaeology is the study of past human culture, which includes information about history," said Brad Laffitte, Fort Johnson's cultural resources manager. "I think the archaeological and historical resources here help to enhance quality of life by providing a historical and cultural understanding of the area. We have many Soldiers who visit our office and want to learn more about the history of the area. We show them historical displays, answer their questions and provide them the resources they need. In that aspect, archaeology helps Soldiers gain a better understanding of the area in which they are training."

Archaeology in and around the Fort Johnson area is also important to the local community.

"It's important for the local Families. In 1941, the Families who lived here were displaced by eminent domain due to the nation's need for training lands for World War II. Their sacrifice led to the creation of the installation. We have two heritage reunions each year where we provide access downrange for families to visit historic cemeteries and homesteads," Laffitte said. "Most of the work we do reaches back

thousands of years, but our work also involves managing cemeteries the heritage Families still visit today. We also coordinate and consult closely with 10 federally recognized tribes on Native American resources. Many people don't realize that about archaeology, but there are many tribes and historic organizations that care about or have direct connections to these resources."

With more than 50 years of continuous hard work done by both Fort Johnson's current and former archaeology teams, many relics have been unearthed and preserved. These include arrowheads from Native American tribes, prehistoric pottery, and historic homestead remains built by the area's early settlers. Other accomplishments include repair work done on 14 major cemeteries and working with the National Park Service to produce posters that show the types of projectile points and pottery found on the installation.

Sherry Wagener, a curation specialist at Fort Johnson, explained what being an archaeologist means to her.

"I love giving tours of the archaeology shop to visitors and doing the environmental compliance classes. Sometimes, parents ask if they can come back and bring their children. The answer is yes, and both always have fun learning about and interacting with the artifacts," Wagener said.

It's also important to protect the sites Fort Johnson's archaeology team is currently examining.

"We have a diverse commu-



*Sherry Wagener, a curation specialist at Fort Johnson, discusses an exhibit at the installation's archaeology department office.*



*"Mom's sitting chair" — an artifact from the 1900s.*

nity from all over the country. I use the exhibits to give them a history lesson of the Fort Johnson area and explain it's against the law to disturb archaeology sites," Wagener said. "More importantly, if they know the history of a place, people tend to have more respect for that place and the individuals who live and have lived there. Fort Johnson isn't just a spot on a map — it is important to highlight its historical context, which is what my team and I do."

As International Archaeology Day comes and goes, one thing is clear — archaeologists work to bring the past back to life, and there is still much history waiting to be unearthed. Without archaeologists and their dedication, many relics seen in museums, history books and documentaries might still be beneath the surface.

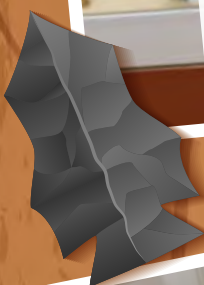
Please see **Archaeology**, page 12



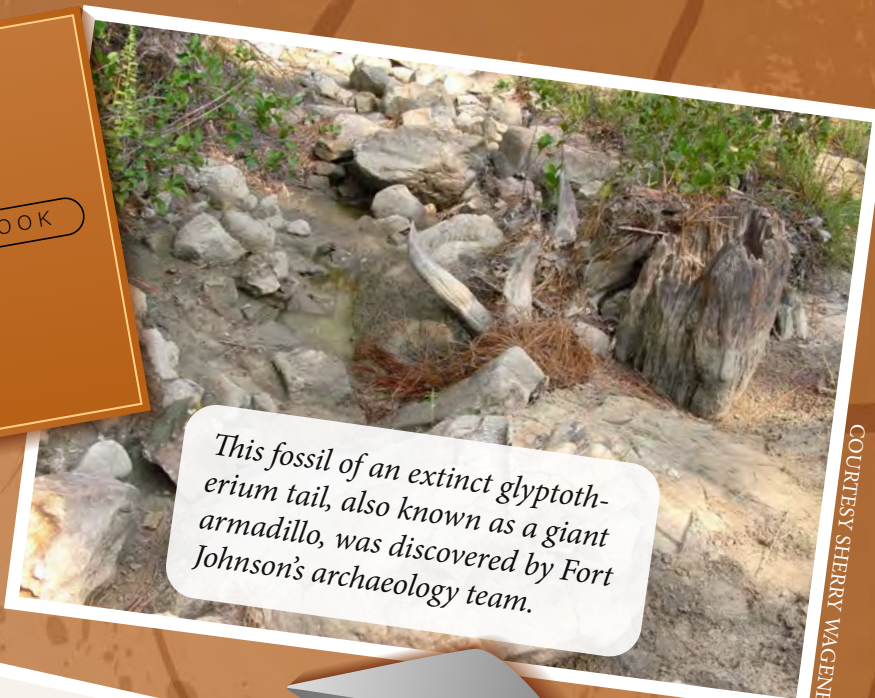
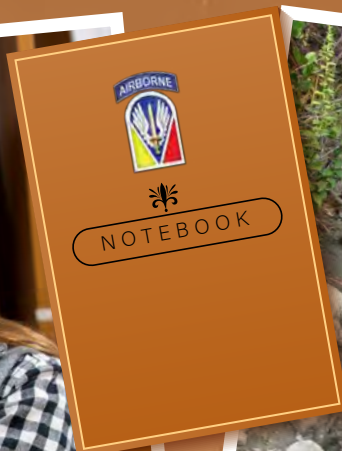
PORSHA AUZENNE/ GUARDIAN

COURTESY SHERRY WAGNER

PORSHA AUZENNE/ GUARDIAN



Wagener demonstrates how a two-piece spear used by the American Indians works. "Most people don't realize how much technology tribes had back then. The easiest example is when I take the spear apart. It's in two pieces, the hollow, lightweight shaft (gun) and the wooded piece with the projectile point attached (bullet). The shaft bounces off when a target is hit and you reload with another wooden piece."



*This fossil of an extinct glyptothereium tail, also known as a giant armadillo, was discovered by Fort Johnson's archaeology team.*



## Historical arrowheads heads discovered



Woodworking tools used in the Gulf Lumber Company Sawmill in what was Fullerton, Louisiana. Fort Johnson, at the time Camp Polk, used the ruins for artillery training for soldiers going to World War II.

## Archaeology

***Fort Johnson is rich in both prehistoric and historic cultural resources, and whenever military training, construction, or timber management occurs there is the potential that these important vestiges of the past may be disturbed. Since 1972, archaeological surveys have been conducted in order to identify and protect significant places and artifacts from the past. Archaeological survey work is the initial step in identifying the location, age, and importance of cultural resources. Extensive surveys have taken place on the installation and over 4,000 sites have been recorded.***

*Most of the archaeological sites on Fort Johnson contain prehistoric artifacts; some also contain historic artifacts. When the military took control of the area in 1941 there were approximately 250 historic home sites. Large oaks, cedar and other trees often mark the former location of these places and sometimes artifacts can be found at these locations. In addition, there are 23 historic cemeteries maintained by Fort Johnson.*





## Home Depot grand opening

Fort Johnson's Exchange held a ribbon cutting to commence the grand opening of their Home Depot appliance section Oct. 18. Home Depot representatives, Fort Johnson leadership, Fort Johnson Exchange personnel and Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers volunteers gathered together to cut the ribbon.

 <p><b>PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE</b></p>	 <p><b>0% INTEREST</b> + No Payments for 6 Months with MILITARY STAR. <small>*Visit MyECP.com/CustomerAids for more details</small></p>
 <p><b>NO SALES TAX</b></p>	 <p><b>FREE DELIVERY</b> <small>on purchases of \$396 or more</small></p>



PORSHA AUZENNE/GUARDIAN

# TURKEY TROT 5K

@ MARION BONNER TRAIL

CHECK-IN STARTS AT 7 AM  
RACE STARTS AT 8 AM

**NOV 18**

**337-353-3424**





# HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

## MAKE HALLOWEEN LESS SCARY WITH THESE IMPORTANT SAFETY TIPS

By PORSHA AUZENNE  
Public Affairs Office

FORT JOHNSON, La. — Ghosts, clowns and goblins aren't the only scary things to worry about on All Hallows' Eve — trick-or-treaters running in the streets, a costume wig catching fire and a candy bar causing a sudden allergic reaction are all things that can happen in an instant. With Halloween fast approaching, it is essential to prioritize safety while simultaneously enjoying all the fun and spooky activities. Here are a few crucial safety tips for children, parents, drivers and pets to ensure Halloween remains scary in a non-deadly way.

### Make sure your costume doesn't become the cause of your casket

Before Halloween arrives, be sure to select a costume that won't cause safety hazards:

- Wear costumes that say "flame resistant" on the label. If you make your costume, use flame-resistant fabrics such as polyester or nylon.
- Wear bright, reflective costumes or add strips of reflective tape so you'll be more visible. Make sure the costumes aren't so long that you're in danger of tripping.
- Wear makeup and hats rather than costume masks that can obscure your vision.
- Test the makeup you plan to use at least 24-48 hours in advance. Put a small amount on the arm of the person who will be wearing it. If a rash, redness, swelling or other signs of irritation develop where the makeup was applied, that's a sign of a possible allergy.
- Vibrantly colored makeup is popular at Halloween. Check the FDA's list of [color additives](#) to see if the colors are FDA approved. If they aren't approved for their intended use, don't use them. This is especially important for colored makeup around the eyes.
- Don't wear decorative (colored) contact lenses that appear to change how your eyes look due to the risk of eye injury, unless you have seen an eye care professional for a proper fitting and been given instructions for how to use the lenses.

### Protect your candy from hexes

Eating sweet treats is a huge part of Halloween, so it is important to practice food safety before, during and after the festivities take place. Before you or your children go trick-or-treating, remember these tips:

- Don't eat candy until it has been inspected at home.



- Eat a snack before heading out to avoid the temptation of nibbling on a treat before it has been inspected.
- In case of a food allergy, check the label to ensure the allergen isn't present.
- Tell children not to accept — or eat — anything that isn't commercially wrapped.
- Parents of very young children should remove any choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies, or small toys from the Halloween bags.
- Inspect commercially wrapped treats for signs of tampering, such as an unusual appearance or discoloration, tiny pinholes or tears in wrappers. Throw away anything that looks suspicious.

### Be weary of darkness while your child goes trick-or-treating

Here's a scary statistic: Children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year.

Lack of visibility because of low lighting at night also plays a factor in these incidents. Keep these tips in mind when your children are out on Halloween night:

- A responsible adult should accompany young children on the neighborhood rounds.
- If your older children are going alone, plan and review a route acceptable to you.
- Agree on a specific time children should return home.
- Teach your children never to enter a stranger's home or car.
- Instruct children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and stick with their friends.

### Be careful of zombies lurking on the road

Here are a few safety tips motorists can follow on Halloween night:

- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.

- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.

- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.

- Discourage new, inexperienced drivers from driving on Halloween.

### Shield your fur-babies from evil

Of course, pets can enjoy Halloween just as we can! Here are a few tips to ensure the safety of your four-legged friends:

- Keep candy out of reach, especially raisins, chocolate, candy corn and xylitol as these are toxic to pets.
- Make sure costumes are comfortable and not restricting your pet's ability to move, see, smell, breathe or make vocal sounds.
- Protect pets from decorations that can potentially be dangerous. These include candles and Jack-O-Lanterns, electrical cords, glow sticks and jewelry, small decorative items and rotting pumpkins.

- Remember to keep anxious pets calm. Crowds of people, excessive noise, unusual costumes and flashing decorations can cause anxiety in pets. [Click here to view ways to keep your pet calm during an anxiety attack.](#)

By following these simple steps, everyone can ensure an extra safe Halloween. As we prepare for a night of spooky and scary fun, let's remember to keep the horrors to the costumes and decorations and not to the safety of our loved ones. Happy Halloween, Fort Johnson!

For more information, these safety tips were found at: [www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/seasonal-safety/autumn-safety/halloween](http://www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/seasonal-safety/autumn-safety/halloween) | [www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/halloween-safety-tips-costumes-candy-and-colored-contact-lenses](http://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/halloween-safety-tips-costumes-candy-and-colored-contact-lenses) | [www.veterinarians.org/halloween-pet-safety-tips/](http://www.veterinarians.org/halloween-pet-safety-tips/) | [kidshealth.org/en/parents/halloween.html](http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/halloween.html)





# HALLOWEEN



## MOCKTAIL RECIPES

NONALCOHOLIC!

### WITCHES BREW

#### INGREDIENTS

- One (two liter) bottle of ginger ale or Sprite chilled
- One cup pineapple juice
- Green food coloring (optional)
- Sliced limes for garnish
- Gummy worms for garnish

#### DIRECTIONS

1. In a pitcher or punch bowl, combine ginger ale and pineapple juice.
2. Add food coloring if desired.
3. Before serving, spoon in the sherbet and slowly mix until it foams up.
4. Garnish with lime wedges and gummy worms.



### CREEPY CRAWLY WIGGLY WORM

#### INGREDIENTS

- Ice cubes
- Green Gatorade
- Blue Gatorade
- Gummy worms
- Whipped cream
- Optional: plastic spiders

#### DIRECTIONS

1. Fill a glass with ice cubes.
2. Fill 1/4 of the glass with blue Gatorade.
3. Fill the rest with green Gatorade. Pour very slowly to create a layered look.
4. Garnish with gummy worms.







ALLIGATOR LAKE

# HAUNTED TRAIL

10\$ PER  
PERSON

OCTOBER 27

TICKET SALES  
END AT 11PM

GATES OPEN AT 6:30 PM

MIDDLE SCHOOL & TEEN CENTER

# Movie NIGHT

OCTOBER 27TH

STARTS AT 1730

MUST BE FAMILY OF  
REGISTERED YOUTH.





**Trick or Treat Trail**  
Followed by a Spooktacular Movie Double Feature!

ON OCTOBER 20TH, DON YOUR COSTUMES AND MEET US AT THE HEADQUARTER'S FEILD FROM 5 TO 7 FOR A NIGHT OF HALLOWEEN FUN!

AFTER TRICK OR TREATING, JOIN US FOR OUR MOVIE NIGHT DOUBLE FEATURE OF MICKEY'S HOUSE OF VILLAINS AND GHOSTBUSTERS 2

Proudly Sponsored by

SWB, BENITO, USAA, MWR, FIRST COMMAND, NSU, and others.

**1ST ANNUAL NIGHTMARE ON MAIN STREET! HALLOWEEN PARTY**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28, 2023  
DOORS OPEN 8PM

**VFW 3106**  
205 E. HARRIET ST, LEESVILLE

FEATURING:  
MUSIC  
COSTUME CONTEST  
HALLOWEEN COCKTAILS

**VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

**BG**  
Productions

**Witch Way To Main**

**Leesville Armadillo Rally**

**Cars Show MOTORCYCLE & SWAP MEET Derby Races**

October 28th 2023

DERBY CAR LOUISIANA STATE  
Leesville

**Gothic Jail after Dark Haunted Attraction**

Where Ghosts & Mortals come to play

October 13,14,20, 21,27, 28 - 7:30pm to 11:30pm | Admission  
October 31 - 6:00pm to 9:30pm | **\$20**

205 W. 1st St. DeRidder, La 70634  
Follow us on Facebook : @GothicJailAfterDark



# *JRTC and Fort Johnson* **SHARP**

Rape

Stalking

Indecent Viewing

## *Tank*

Sexual Harassment

Sexual Misconduct

Consent

Sexual Assault

Abusive Sexual Contact

## *Prevention Initiatives*

*Be a part of the Solution not part of the Problem.  
We want to hear from you!*

*The SHARP Tank offers a unique opportunity for the Fort Johnson community to showcase their ideas to prevent sexual assault and sexual harassment. If you have an idea, share it. Drop your idea off in any SHARP suggestion box located on the installation or use the QR Code below to email your idea. If your idea is selected, you will be formally recognized by the commanding general.*





# FIRST-AID KITS

Should be inspected monthly or following a first aid incident. Expired first aid items dry out and become less safe to use, i.e., dried gloves may break, dried bandages may refuse to stay in place, and both may expose the user to germs and other potential safety risks



Contact Garrison Safety if you need any pointers at 531-SAFE

## ANSI Z308.1-2021 First-Aid Kit (minimum)

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. 16 x Adhesive Bandages                    | 11. First Aid Guide         |
| 2. Adhesive Tape                             | 12. 10 x Hand Sanitizer     |
| 3. 10 x Antibiotic Application               | 13. 2 x Medical Exam Gloves |
| 4. 10 x Antiseptic                           | 14. Roller Bandage - 2 inch |
| 5. CPR Breathing Barrier                     | 15. Scissors                |
| 6. Burn Dressing (gel soaked)                | 16. 2 x Sterile Pad         |
| 7. 10 x Burn Treatment                       | 17. 2 x Trauma Pad          |
| 8. Cold Pack                                 | 18. Triangular Bandage      |
| 9. 2 x Eye Covering with Means of Attachment | 19. Foil Blanket            |
| 10. Eye Wash                                 |                             |

**PRO TIP** - To be prepared for emergencies, always keep a first aid kit in your home and in your car



## Ten-miler team success

The Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson Army Ten-Miler Team was selected, after conducting three time trials, from units across the installation. The Army Ten-Miler race consisted of a total of 17,488 runners from across the nation. The category the team competed in was active duty mixed — men and women U.S. service members from the same duty station, installation, division, center or group. The Army Ten-Miler final results were published Oct. 13. Fort Johnson's team took 10th place with an overall finishing time of 4 hours, 23 minutes and 20 seconds.

Now Showing:

# FREEBIRDS

at Headquarters Field

November 3rd @ 1800

Magic Show | Balloons | Free Popcorn

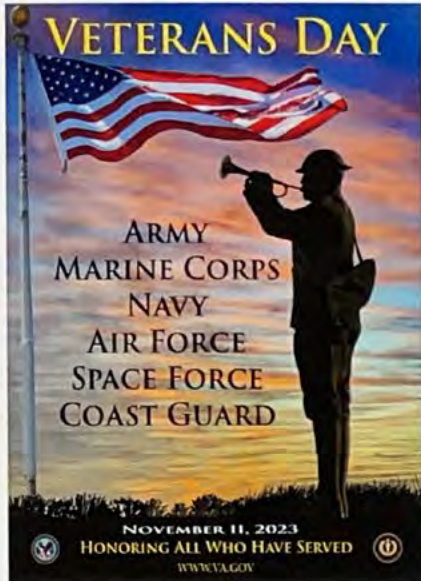


# UNITED AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

Fort Johnson  
Victim Advocacy Program  
337-531-6897



# 94TH ANNUAL VETERANS' DAY CELEBRATION



For additional information please contact:

Jody Campbell  
Event Coordinator  
337-348-6798  
War Memorial Fund of SWLA  
PO Box 321  
Dry Creek, LA 70637



**November 5, 2023**  
**Memorial Service 7:00 AM**  
**12:00 - 4:00 PM**  
**Ceremony at 1:15 PM**  
**East Beauregard High School**  
**Football Stadium**

★☆☆★ **NEW!!!** Scan for Details ➡ ★☆☆★

**JAMBALAYA COOK-OFF** by  
local businesses/civic groups



GUEST SPEAKER:

**David W. Gardner**

Commanding General  
JRTC and Fort Johnson



**Thank You for Your Service!!!**

★ FREE TO THE PUBLIC ☆ COMPLIMENTARY FOOD AND DRINKS ★

**U.S. ARMY JRTC AND  
FORT JOHNSON**

Home of the Joint Readiness  
Training Center

"Forging the Warrior Spirit"

**AIRBORNE**



Static Displays of Vintage and  
Civilian Military Vehicles

Static Displays By:  
US Army  
US Coast Guard  
US Border Patrol  
LA National Guard

Fly-overs include:  
Black Hawk Foundation  
US Air Force  
F4U T-6 Formation  
Missing Man Formation

Colors Presented By:  
Washington Manon JROTC

Special Music By:  
East Beauregard HS Band  
Last Minute Big Band



## RED RIBBON WEEK

**Oct. 23-27 — Wear Red Ribbon lapel pins**

**Oct. 27 — Wear red and post selfies with  
#RedRibbonFILA**

**For more information call 337-531-2031**





### Corvias pet plunge

Corvias hosted a pet plunge Oct. 2 at each neighborhood center. This is an annual event that takes place on the day the pools close. It gives owners an opportunity to swim with their pets (dogs ... because, for some reason, cats don't seem that interested). It's also a fun way for pets to have some refreshing fun and perhaps make new pet friends!



Just a Bunch  
Of  
**HOCUS  
POCUS**

JOINT READINESS  
TRAINING CENTER  
**FORT  
JOHNSON**

**TRICK OR TREAT HOURS**  
**OCT 31 5 PM – 8 PM**

### Check VIN numbers

The Directorate of Emergency Services Traffic Division will release the following vehicles to MWR for disposal if they remain unclaimed. Vehicles are listed with the last four of their VIN number. If one of these vehicles belongs to you, please contact the Fort Johnson Police Traffic Division at 337-531-1806, 6675 or 2675.

1994	Ford	F250	3432
1997	Dodge	1500	3720
2003	Nissan	Maxima	6157
2014	Chevrolet	Cruze	0491
2002	Pontiac	Grand Prix	1285
1995	Dodge	1500	8287
2016	Jeep	Patriot	9883
2005	Buick	LaSaber	7593
2005	Lincoln	LS	5385
2001	GMC	Yukon	6444
2010	Hyundai	Genesis	5409
2005	Long	Boat trailer	5409
Unknown	Unknown	Utility trailer	N/A
2007	Mitsubishi	Galant	9674



# Firefighters teach life saving skills during Fire Prevention Week

FIRE

EXTINGUISHER

Fort Johnson Directorate of Emergency Services firefighters conduct educational presentations at local schools to teach fire safety during Fire Prevention Week.



COURTESY JAMES MCARTHUR/FORT JOHNSON DES



ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN



ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN



ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN



ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN



ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN





# CONTEST WINNERS

1st

Eloise Kershenstine

2nd

Isabella Davis

(not pictured)

3rd

Athena Gonzales

1st

Jax Lee

2nd

Zariah Llesis

3rd

Malia Stokes

1st

Briley Ivory

2nd

Julian Moreno

3rd

Kaaiden Coleman



(Athena Gonzales, Eloise Kershenstine)

**LA-4**



(Jax Lee, Zariah Llesis, Malia Stokes)

**KINDERGARTEN**



(Kaaiden Coleman, Julian Moreno, Briley Ivory)

**HEADSTART**





# CONTEST WINNERS



(Torben Whiteside, Harper Kiraly, Taylor Hallford)

## 1ST GRADE

1st

Taylor Hallford

2nd

Harper Kiraly

3rd

Torben Whiteside



(McKenna Jandreau, Samson Brooks, Alina Vega)

## 2ND GRADE

1st

Samson Brooks

2nd

Alina Vega

3rd

McKenna Jandreau



(Briella Skelley, Leila Suarez)

## 3RD GRADE

1st

Briella Skelley

2nd

Leila Suarez

3rd

Annabella Garcia

(not pictured)



(Averie Shaw, Tracy Hamilton, Zaylen Lopez)

## 4TH GRADE

1st

Tracy Hamilton

2nd

Averie Shaw

3rd

Zaylen Lopez



## Soldier scary movie nights

The Home of Heroes Recreation Center hosts a scary movie night every Tuesday throughout the month of October.

Starting at 6 p.m., Soldiers can stop by for refreshments and a showing of their favorite Halloween-themed movies!

For more information call 337-531-5870.

## Ladies day

Every third Sunday of the month, ladies get half off range fees at the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Recreational Shooting Range.

For more information please call 337-531-7552.

## Big buck competition

Ready, aim, fire! The Fort Johnson Shooting Range is hosting a big buck shooting competition Oct. 1-Jan. 31. Categories will include age ranges 5-10 years, 11-14 years, 15-17 years and 18 and older. One winner will be selected from each years category. Hunters will measure their buck at one of three locations and submit their photos through the link below.

For more information please call 337-353-0528.

<https://johnson.armymwr.com/happenings/>

## big-buck-competition

## Women's league

Nine, Wine and Dine is a new ladies golf league that takes place each Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. Women are invited to participate. It's a great opportunity to make new friends, enjoy a night of golf (nine holes) and then opting to have dinner and wine at the Forge Bar and Grill.

The cost is \$22 for members and \$27 for nonmembers. The event takes place at the Warrior Hills Golf Course. The next Nine, Wine and Dine is Oct. 24.

For more information call 337-531-4661.

## Wednesday night scramble

The Warrior Hills Golf Course hosts a nine hole scramble each Wednesday. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. The next scramble is Oct. 25 from 5-6 p.m.

For more information call 337-531-4661.

<https://johnson.armymwr.com/happenings/wednesday-night-scramble>

## MST spooky movie night

The Middle School and Teen Center will be hosting a showing of Stephen King's "Rose Red" Oct. 27 at 5:30 p.m. Snacks and refreshments will

be provided.

For more information call 337-531-1992.

## Spooky swim lessons

Calling all the little monsters ages 3 to 12 years old! Come to the 50-meter pool for some spooky swimming fun Oct. 28 from 11 a.m.-noon. Twenty-five slots are available on a first come, first served basis. Cost is \$5 per child.

For more information please call 337-531-1988.

## Haunted house and carnival

Child and Youth Services is hosting a haunted two-day event that'll have you screaming! All are invited to this haunted house and carnival double feature Oct. 31 at the Youth Gym (building 2070). Events start at 6 p.m. and cost \$5 per person.

An additional haunted house tour will also take place Oct. 28 from 6-9 p.m.

## Friday Night Live

Thank goodness it's Friday! Grab a friend and stop by The Forge Bar and Grill Nov. 3 starting at 5:30 p.m. for food, drinks, raffle prizes, games and more.

This event is open to ages 18 and older.

<https://johnson.armymwr.com/calendar/event/friday-night-live/6055446/81069>

# FORT JOHNSON THINGS TO DO

## Oct. 13-31: Gothic Jail After Dark Haunted Attraction

DeRidder, La.

October features a haunted house like none other this Halloween season. Experience the haunting and historic Gothic Jail, where paranormal activity runs rampant and the walls hold secrets of a brutal murder, suicides and a double hanging. Located at 205 West 1st St.



## Oct. 26-Nov. 12: The State Fair of Louisiana Shreveport, La.

The State Fair of Louisiana will be held at the State Fairgrounds in Shreveport. Gates open at 10 a.m. and admission is \$12 and up. The State Fair features unique fair foods, live music, Louisiana's largest display of carnival rides, free shows and attractions.

<https://www.statefairloisiana.com/>

## Oct. 23-Oct. 31: Anderson Hills Pumpkin Festival

Leesville, La.

Come out to Anderson Hills Pumpkin Festival and experience a very "gourd" time! Activities include a hay maze, tree house, nature trail, pumpkin shopping, a hayride and more. The festival can be visited Thursdays and Fri-



days from 3 p.m.-7 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sundays from 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

For more information call 337-404-5036.

## Oct. 27: Moonlight Over Melrose

Melrose, La.

Get ready for a bewitching evening of family-friendly fun at "Moonlight Over Melrose," a Halloween extravaganza set to take place Oct. 27 from 6-9 p.m. This enchanting event promises an array of thrilling activities and entertainment for all ages, making it the ultimate destination for Halloween enthusiasts.

Prepare to be captivated by a night of games and entertainment that will leave you spellbound. From classic carnival games to a mesmerizing witches' dance performance that will have you dancing along with the mystical rhythm of the night.

For those who love to boogie, a lively dance area with spooky beats spun by a DJ await.

Explore the eerie wonders of the Jeepers Creepers Trunk-Or-Treat Lane, where a fleet of creatively decorated vehicles will distribute treats to eager trick-or-treaters.

Unearth the history and mystery of the plantation house as you embark on guided tours through its historic corridors. Listen to rich stories that have shaped Melrose On The Cane.

Don your most creative and family-friendly Halloween costume. Whether you

choose to be a charming witch, a daring superhero, or a mystical creature, the costume contest is your time to shine. With a night full of treats and treasures, be sure to bring a bag to collect all the candy and goodies you'll receive throughout the evening.

<http://www.melroseplantation.org/festivals>

## Oct. 27: Tales Along the Bayou

Alexandria, La.

Kent Plantation House hosts the Rapides Parish Library's annual Tales along the Bayou Oct. 27 from 6 - 8:30 p.m. Bring the family, your lawn chairs and picnic dinners to enjoy an evening of musical entertainment, not-so-scary stories and scary stories told by awesome story tellers. Admission is free.

For more information call 318-487-5998

## Oct. 28: Shreveport Brew

Shreveport, La.

Shreveport Brew is scheduled to be held at Festival Plaza in Shreveport Oct. 28. Experience an afternoon sampling internationally acclaimed and domestically microbrewed ales, pilsners, stouts and everything in between. In addition to more than 100 beers to sample, Brew patrons will experience live music and delicious samples of signature dishes from some of Shreveport's most popular restaurants.

<https://shreveportbrew.com/>